

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1952

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MAY 21, 2019

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

AN ACT

To amend the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 to require the Secretary of State to report on intercountry adoptions from countries which have significantly reduced adoption rates involving immigration to the United States, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Intercountry Adoption
3 Information Act of 2019”.

4 **SEC. 2. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED IN**
5 **ANNUAL REPORT ON INTERCOUNTRY ADOP-**
6 **TIONS.**

7 (a) **REPORT ELEMENTS.**—Section 104(b) of the
8 Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14914(b))
9 is amended by adding at the end the following new para-
10 graphs:

11 “(9) A list of countries that established or
12 maintained a significant law or regulation that pre-
13 vented or prohibited adoptions involving immigration
14 to the United States, regardless of whether such
15 adoptions occurred under the Convention.

16 “(10) For each country listed under paragraph
17 (9), the date on which the law or regulation was ini-
18 tially implemented.

19 “(11) Information on efforts taken with respect
20 to a country listed under paragraph (9) to encourage
21 the resumption of halted or stalled adoption pro-
22 ceedings involving immigration to the United States,
23 regardless of whether the adoptions would have oc-
24 curred under the Convention.

25 “(12) Information on any action the Secretary
26 carried out that prevented, prohibited, or halted any

1 adoptions involving immigration to the United
2 States, regardless of whether the adoptions occurred
3 under the Convention.

4 “(13) For each country listed pursuant to para-
5 graph (12), a description of—

6 “(A) what policies, procedures, resources,
7 and safeguards the country lacks, or other
8 shortcomings or circumstances, that caused the
9 action to be carried out;

10 “(B) what progress the country has made
11 to alleviate those shortcomings; and

12 “(C) what steps the Department of State
13 has taken in order to assist the country to re-
14 open intercountry adoptions.

15 “(14) An assessment of the impact of the fee
16 schedule of the Intercountry Adoption Accreditation
17 and Maintenance Entity on families seeking to adopt
18 internationally, especially low-income families, fami-
19 lies seeking to adopt sibling groups, or families seek-
20 ing to adopt children with disabilities.”.

21 (b) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—Section 104
22 of the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.
23 14914) is amended by adding at the end the following new
24 subsection:

1 “(c) PUBLIC AVAILABILITY OF REPORT.—The Sec-
2 retary shall make the information contained in the report
3 required under subsection (a) available to the public on
4 the website of the Department of State.”.

5 (c) PRIVACY CONCERNS.—In complying with the
6 amendments made by subsections (a) and (b), the Sec-
7 retary shall avoid, to the maximum extent practicable, dis-
8 closing any personally identifiable information relating to
9 United States citizens or the adoptees of such citizens.

10 (d) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 104(a) of
11 the Intercountry Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C.
12 14914(a)) is amended by striking “International Rela-
13 tions” and inserting “Foreign Affairs”.

14 (e) APPLICATION DATE.—The amendments made by
15 this section shall apply with respect to reports required
16 to be submitted under section 104 of the Intercountry
17 Adoption Act of 2000 (42 U.S.C. 14914) beginning on the
18 date that is 180 days after the date of enactment of this
19 Act.

Passed the House of Representatives May 20, 2019.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.